



JAY L. CLENDENIN/LOS ANGELES TIMES



Friday
SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

★ **FREE** ★
A Chicago Tribune
publication

Can the Bears
salvage this
season? **6**

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GINA *on the* HORIZON

**ONSCREEN AND OFF, 'JANE THE VIRGIN' &
'DEEPWATER HORIZON' STAR GINA RODRIGUEZ
CHALLENGES EXPECTATIONS PAGES 10-12**

BY SAMANTHA NELSON FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@REDEYECHICAGO.COM » GET MORE SPONTANEOUS EAT. DRINK. DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECHICAGO.COM



JOHN J. KIM/TRIBUNE FILE

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The annual outdoor fest sells six varieties of oysters, king crab bites, lobster rolls, clam chowder, fish tacos and beer from Founders Brewing Co. and features live music from Bumpus and Breezy Rodio. 3-10 p.m. Friday. \$20. Tickets: oysterfestchicago.com

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Lincoln Avenue between Lawrence and Eastwood avenues 773-728-3890
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Bucktown Pub
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DO

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The Public House Theatre
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Otherworld Theatre presents 40 short science-fiction and fantasy plays performed by 110 actors. The second annual fest is divided into roughly one-hour blocks over the course of two days. 11 a.m.-6:45 p.m. Saturday and 11 a.m.-10:30 p.m. Sunday. \$7 per block, \$15 day pass, \$22 weekend pass. Tickets: [otherworldtheatre.org](http://worldtheatre.org)

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MORE LIKE FLUMISSED

WITH FLUMIST SPRAY DEEMED INEFFECTIVE, THIS YEAR YOU'LL HAVE TO ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE FOR A FLU VACCINE

By Dawn Rhodes | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

For the past few years, most adults and children had a choice of how to get vaccinated against the flu: the more common shot in the arm or the FluMist spray in the nostrils.

But the less painful method no longer is an option, at least not for the foreseeable future. National health authorities determined FluMist essentially was useless last year in protecting against the dangerous influenza virus. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ruled FluMist should not be used at all for the upcoming season.

The disavowal of the nasal spray meant health providers had to shift gears and stock up on more injected vaccines to meet demand. And it means patients will have to grit their teeth this fall and endure the uncomfortable, brief pinch of the shots.

"It could be an issue for some people, but in order to provide an effective vaccine that will protect their child against influenza, the only vaccine that's currently available is injectable," said Dr. Tina Tan, an infectious disease physician at Lurie Children's Hospital and professor at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine. "There's no use giving someone a vaccine if it doesn't work."

The Food and Drug Administration first licensed FluMist in 2003, approving it for people ages 5 to 49. FluMist contains a weakened, live flu virus intended to provoke a stronger reaction from the body's defenses. The flu shot delivers an inactivated virus. CDC leaders even favored the nasal spray over the shot during the 2014-15 flu season.

Approximately 20 million people received the nasal spray last year, about 14 percent of the estimated 144.5 million who got any sort of flu vaccination, according to the CDC.

But FluMist's results slumped over the past three flu seasons. A CDC committee determined in June that the nasal spray showed just a 3 percent effectiveness rate in protecting against the flu among kids 2 to 17 in the 2015-16 season.

"It is no better than if you gave somebody salt water," Tan said.

Why FluMist performed so poorly last year is a mystery for now. Even the flu shot has different success rates year to year because the predominant strains of flu change, which in turn compels adjustment to the vaccine mixtures, according to health leaders. But the prevalent flu strain last year was H1N1—the variety that affects children most severely and

that responded least well to the nasal spray, according to Dr. Marielle Fricchione of the Chicago Department of Public Health.

Whatever the scientific reasons for FluMist failing so spectacularly, CDC leaders swiftly rejected its use and urged medical providers to only administer injected vaccines this year. The American Academy of Pediatrics followed suit.

Fortunately, doctors say, the policy shift occurred long enough before cold and flu season to not cause panic or crisis. The CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics worked closely with providers and vaccine manufacturers to replace all the now-worthless nasal spray vaccines with injectable doses.

"As soon as it became apparent that [FluMist] would not be recommended, the other manufacturers increased their production and increased distribution," CDC director Dr. Tom Frieden said at a news conference Thursday. "With the availability of up to 168 million doses this year, we don't think there will be any shortage."

Fricchione said about 10 percent of the vaccines the city's public health department ordered from the CDC were the nasal sprays, but the department has received its full supply

of injected doses for the season.

The future of FluMist is uncertain.

Experts have noted that the nasal spray vaccine has been shown to work well in other countries. The FDA challenged the reliability of the research findings, pointing to studies showing FluMist's success overseas, and still endorses the nasal spray. AstraZeneca stands by its product and is continuing to distribute FluMist in other countries this year.

Frieden said federal authorities want to bring that type of immunization back into the fold if it can be proven to work.

Dr. Robert S. Daum, professor of pediatrics, microbiology and molecular medicine at the University of Chicago, said he understands the ambivalence some may feel about flu shots because of this. But whatever limitations flu vaccines have, medical professionals agree they still are vital tools to keep people healthy.

"If you look at the health care advances in the last 100 years, there are vaccines," Daum said. "My parents used to get scared stiff about paralytic polio. That's not a problem anymore. People can be skeptical all they want, but [flu vaccines] are still the best way we have to prevent this terrible disease."



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What can I do to stop thinking about my ex?



Anna Pulley
@annapulley
redeye@redeye.chicago.com

Dear Anna, It's been four months since I was dumped. I still think about him every day. Do you think it means I'm not over him? Or is it just curiosity/habit? I wonder how he's doing. I think of our inside jokes and routines. I worry about him a little. I've blocked him on social media so I don't have to be reminded,

but I don't know how to block him from my thoughts. Any tips? —Relentless Thoughts

reminded of someone is incredibly common, post-breakup. Whole songs have been written about the phenomenon of seeing your ex's car everywhere. We see their names on billboards, in books. We hear "our" song on the radio. We're bombarded with signs of them.

Founder of analytical psychology Carl Jung called these meaningful coincidences "synchronicity" and described them thus: "When coincidences pile up in this way, one cannot help being impressed by them—for the greater the number of terms in such a series, or the more unusual its character, the more improbable it becomes."

In short, don't beat yourself up too much

Dear RT, It's damn near impossible to "block" someone from your mind. In fact, studies have shown that the more we TRY to abolish something from our mind, the more our brains will ensure the pesky thought stays put.

Social psychologist Daniel Wegner at Harvard tested this assumption in a study where he asked participants to verbalize their stream of consciousness thoughts for 5 minutes while trying not to think of a white bear. Despite the explicit direction to avoid thinking of a white bear, the participants thought of it more than once per minute on average.

I bet you're thinking of a white bear right now, actually. #sorry

Is there any way to avoid unwanted thoughts, then? Kind of. But it involves work, and frankly, I think your stray, passing thoughts about your ex hardly constitute concern. If thoughts of him were causing you to, say, neglect your life or your job or your other relationships, that's one thing. But being

Is there any way to avoid unwanted thoughts, then? Kind of. But it involves work, and frankly, I think your stray, passing thoughts about your ex hardly constitute concern.

for thinking of your ex. Focus instead on living your life and on letting thoughts flow through and out of you like waves.

If, however, you find the thoughts to be annoyingly persistent, Wegner noted that you can try a few different strategies. One is to pick another distractor to focus on instead. Cheese, perhaps? The underappreciated

poetry of Jewel? Another trick is to set aside a short, specific time to think about him, say for 30 minutes on Wednesdays, which can help some people avoid worrying the rest of the time. Lastly, you can try 5 minutes of mindfulness meditation a day (focusing on your breath and returning to it when your mind inevitably wanders), which can help you strengthen your mental faculties and resolve.

Good luck, RT. Try not to bring too much pressure to (white) bear on yourself. #sorrysorry

ANNA PULLEY IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR. WANT TO ASK ANNA AN ANONYMOUS QUESTION ABOUT LOVE, SEX OR DATING? EMAIL YOUR QUANDARY TO REDEYEDATING@GMAIL.COM



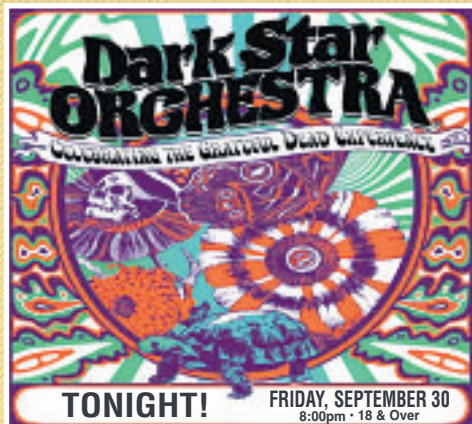
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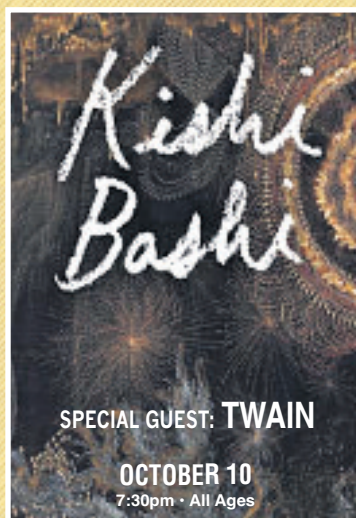
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2016 NFL SEASON | WEEK 4

BEARS

Dallas strong safety Barry Church attempts to stop Bears running back Jeremy Langford last week in Texas. AP



SLOW YOUR ROLL

EXPECT THE BEARS TO SOLVE SOME OF THEIR ISSUES BEFORE 2016 ENDS

By Dan Wiederer | CHICAGO TRIBUNE

After a winless September—the franchise's second straight and sixth since 1997—the Bears find themselves with a daunting task, needing to find meaning and motivation in the final three months of another lost season.

No, coach John Fox's team is not yet mathematically eliminated from playoff contention. But since the playoffs expanded to 12 teams in 1990, only three teams have recovered from 0-3 to reach the playoffs.

That leaves Fox and his players needing to adapt a micro-focus, to stay present in each week along their long and bumpy path. And it leaves everyone to recalibrate expectations.

As the Bears now turn their attention toward Sunday's home game against Detroit, here's your guide to finding a realistic outlook.

EXPECT Running back Jeremy Langford to miss significant time with his high right ankle sprain

High ankle sprains are no small thing, particularly for running backs, who need to plant and cut on a regular basis. Bears nose tackle Eddie Goldman has a similar injury right now, and he's expected to be out until at least mid-October with one source indicating a target date of Oct. 20 for his return. ESPN reported Monday that Langford could miss four to six weeks with his ankle sprain, which fits within the standard parameters for recovery for that injury.

DON'T EXPECT Jordan Howard to suddenly become LaDainian Tomlinson

Yes, Howard's first carry Sunday against Dallas was impressive, a 36-yard burst. But the Bears need those flashes to become sustained success. After that big play—the Bears' longest run all season—the rookie had eight more rushes. The log: 1 yard, -1, -3, 0, 1, -3, 14, 0. Howard should see extended time Sunday against the Lions, who have the league's 21st-ranked run defense.

EXPECT The Bears to make noticeable improvement as the season moves along

Yes, the first three games were a disaster. The Bears' 45 points rank 30th in the NFL, ahead of only Houston and Tennessee. And they are dead last in scoring differential through three games at minus-38. Still, Fox and his staff pride themselves on their ability to elevate young talent; now is the time for that strength to show itself. It's hard to believe the Bears will remain as sloppy and stagnant as they've been in the season's first month.

DON'T EXPECT A dramatic turnaround

With 28 years of NFL coaching experience, Fox has seen it all and isn't shy about



Jay Cutler
CHRIS SWEDA/TRIBUNE

referencing real-life turnaround tales as a carrot of hope for his players and Bears fans. Fox turned to the 2004 season on Monday as a reference point. That season, Fox's Carolina Panthers fell apart after losing in the Super Bowl the previous January. They were riddled by injuries and unstable at quarterback and went 1-7 in the season's first half. Ultimately they rebounded to finish 7-9. It was a bounce-back from bad to mediocre. And it seems at this point to be a more realistic view of the Bears' potential in the next three months.

EXPECT The defensive struggles to persist

No offense to Will Sutton, but Goldman's absence crippled the Bears on Sunday, taking away so much sturdiness in the middle of the defensive line. The Bears also lost inside linebacker Danny Trevathan, who's out indefinitely after thumb surgery. That left the Bears to use a rotation of Nick Kwiatkowski, Christian Jones and Jonathan Anderson next to linebacker Jerrell Freeman. They're also now dealing with a secondary where starting safety Harold Jones-Quartey is sidelined by a concussion and Kyle Fuller is on injured reserve. Oh, and last year's team sack leader Lamarr Houston (torn ACL) is on injured reserve, and Pernell McPhee is cemented on the physically-unable-to-perform list.

DON'T EXPECT A lull in effort

The Bears have too much at stake to become overly demoralized by their September struggles. To begin climbing back toward the middle of the pack, they'll need a host of young defensive players to attack every practice and every game with urgency. The team also will need passionate yet calm leadership from accomplished veterans. Freeman has played well to this point and now needs to set a tone. "There's no panic," he said. "There's a sense of urgency. That's for sure."

EXPECT Plenty of confusion about the possibilities of Jay Cutler's return from a sprained right thumb

When will that be? What's the next big hurdle in his recovery? Is the severity of Cutler's injury worse than the Bears have let on? Fox won't answer any of those questions directly. And the coach further muddled the waters when he was asked Monday about the possibility of Cutler becoming a backup to Brian Hoyer after his thumb is healed.

"I don't think there are any givens," he said. "And that's no indictment on anybody. This is a day-to-day, week-to-week, what-have-you-done-for-me-lately league, and so we're just trying to get the best 11 guys out there regardless of the position to where we can play a full 60 minutes and get a victory."

It's difficult to say whether Fox has an M.O. more sophisticated than simply trying to confuse upcoming opponents on who the Bears' starting quarterback will be. But it should be pointed out that Cutler has been a fast healer.

DON'T EXPECT The Bears to solve their quarterback issues in 2016

Signs are pointing toward a separation from Cutler after this season. The guaranteed money in Cutler's current contract will be fully paid out at season's end, and even with a deal that extends through 2020, the structure of Cutler's 2017 pay schedule includes a \$12.5 million base salary and \$2.5 million roster bonus, which won't kick in until after final cuts. Translation: The Bears can separate from Cutler at no cost any time before Week 1 of next fall.

So what becomes the most convenient separation strategy? That remains to be seen. The Bears need a worthy successor, and it's unlikely to be Hoyer. The search for that solution will take time.

WELCOME TO WEEK 4

Bears (0-3) vs. Detroit (1-2), noon Sunday, Fox

STAT WE HOPE MEANS EVERYTHING 4.1

The Bears are a so-so 13th in the NFL with 4.1 yards per rush. We're struggling for bright spots here, so "a little above average" will have to do for now.

STAT WE HOPE MEANS NOTHING 24:05

The Bears are last in the NFL in time of possession at 24 minutes, 5 seconds per game. That only works if you score points in a hurry, gaining huge chunks of yardage on regular basis. The Bears aren't doing that right now, but maybe they'll start?

VIEWER'S GUIDE

Thursday's game

Miami at Cincinnati, late



» Kansas City (2-1) at Pittsburgh (2-1), 7:30 p.m. Sunday, NBC

The Chiefs want to run the ball until the defense crumbles into dust. The Steelers might do a little of that now that they get Le'Veon Bell back on the field, though they could just as easily pass opponents into oblivion. Could be one hell of a shootout.

» N.Y. Giants (2-1) at Minnesota (3-0), 7:30 p.m. Monday, ESPN

If you saw what the Vikings did to Carolina last week, you know their defense is no joke. The Giants' receiving duo of Odell Beckham and Victor Cruz is always a treat to watch. Salsa dancing, anyone?



» Oakland (2-1) at Baltimore (3-0), noon Sunday, CBS
» Denver (3-0) at Tampa Bay (1-2), 3:05 p.m. Sunday, CBS-2



» Seattle (2-1) at N.Y. Jets (1-2), noon Sunday, Fox
» Carolina (1-2) at Atlanta (2-1), noon Sunday, Fox
» Tennessee (1-2) at Houston (2-1), noon Sunday, CBS
» Buffalo (1-2) at New England (3-0), noon Sunday, CBS
» Los Angeles (2-1) at Arizona (1-2), 3:25 p.m. Fox



» Indianapolis (1-2) at Jacksonville (0-3), 8:30 a.m. Sunday, CBS-2
» Cleveland (0-3) at Washington (1-2), noon Sunday, CBS
» Dallas (2-1) at San Francisco (1-2), 3:25 p.m. Sunday, Fox-32
» New Orleans (0-3) at San Diego (1-2), 3:25 p.m. Sunday, Fox

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Exactly how do NFL players rebound from losses?

By Chris Sosa | REDEYE

Editor's note: Each week during the NFL season, former Bears defensive lineman Alex Brown shares his football wisdom with RedEye.

One thing we love about talking to former Bear Alex Brown is he always brings it. Even now, with the team 0-3 (and not looking great in general).

This week he addressed how players improved after losses. It was particularly enlightening and gave him (and now us) a chance to reflect on that famous 2006 comeback at Arizona, where Brian Urlacher had 19 tackles to spark a 24-23 win after the Bears trailed 20-0. (It was the same game that gave the world Arizona coach Dennis Green's "they are who we thought they were!" rant.)

Brown's also cool with Pernell McPhee dressing down Jay Cutler. We'll let him take it from here.

How were practices after a rough loss when you were in the NFL? Did coach Lovie Smith have to say a lot?

Typically he didn't have to. We had a lot of really, really good players, and we had a nice big handful of great players. You look at Lance Briggs, Brian Urlacher, Olin Kreutz, Devin Hester, Charles Tillman ... we're talking about four or five Hall of Famers on that team, and then we're looking at a bunch of Pro Bowl-type players [as well], so [Smith] didn't have to do a whole lot.

Once we kind of figured it out in '05 all the way through '06, it was more or less we looked at each other and we held ourselves accountable. We had to make these plays. One day might not be my day. The Arizona

game comes to mind real quick. That particular game, Urlacher, he was all over the place, but everybody did their job and the [opposing running] back funneled right to him, exactly where it was supposed to go, and he made the play every single time. If everybody does their job, let's say [defensive lineman] Tank [Johnson] didn't get in his gap or I was out of my gap or [defensive lineman Adewale] Ogunleye wasn't in his gap. Well, Urlacher could be in his gap all he wants, [but the running back is] going to run through my gap because I'm not in my gap and [Urlacher] wouldn't have made that play. So even though we didn't get a tackle for it, we felt like we did our job so Urlacher could get a tackle for it or Briggs could make the tackle or everybody did their job so I could make the play, or [defensive lineman] Tommie Harris and Tank Johnson pushed the pocket so the quarterback couldn't step up, so when myself and Ogunleye and [defensive ends] Israel Idonije and Mark Anderson came around the edge, he couldn't step up so we could hit him right in the back.

Everybody has a job to do, and if everybody's doing their job, then the job will get done. If somebody's not doing their job, we didn't have a problem with telling them that. Like the whole thing with [current Bears linebacker] Pernell [McPhee] and [Jay] Cutler, that happened all the time with us. It's just that people look at Jay and they're like, "Oh, they can't do that to Jay." Why not? What, you can't hold Jay accountable? I don't get it, I don't understand it. We did it all the time.

I'm telling you, when the players hold each other accountable, the coaches sit back and just watch it. They don't have to say anything.

NOTE: ALTHOUGH OGUNLEYE DID NOT PLAY IN THE GAME AGAINST ARIZONA IN 2006, HE DID PLAY IN 14 REGULAR-SEASON GAMES AS WELL AS ALL THREE GAMES IN THE POSTSEASON THAT YEAR.

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movies

Gina Rodriguez knows what it's like to be the odd one out.

That may seem hard to believe now that the 32-year-old Chicago native stars in the hit CW series "Jane the Virgin" and "Deepwater Horizon"—an action-disaster film about the 2010 BP oil spill out today—but it's tough to ignore the ways that Rodriguez breaks the mold. She's proudly curvy in a profession that traditionally prefers itty-bitty measurements. She's passionate about self-love and inner strength in a culture that favors demureness from women. She's a Latina in a white-washed, male-dominated industry.

Rodriguez champions all of these qualities that place her outside the realm of the Hollywood norm. So when she first heard about "Deepwater Horizon" and the part of Andrea Fleytas, a young Latina crew member involved in dynamic positioning on the rig and one of the only women aboard, she jumped on it.

"Our commonality is the struggle of being brown in America. And whatever shade of brown you are, from a light-skinned Latina to a black Latina, we all have that same struggle."

—Gina Rodriguez

"I thought, 'What a great opportunity for a feature film to represent the Latino community, who are a part of U.S. history and a part of the backbone of U.S. history, in a major feature film,'" Rodriguez said in a phone interview from New Orleans. "Especially one discussing inclusion and the need for seeing different faces onscreen."

It doesn't hurt that the project was directed by Peter Berg—whom she's always wanted to work with—and included heavy-hitting cast members like Mark Wahlberg, John Malkovich, Kate Hudson and Kurt Russell.

"Knowing that I could possibly have an opportunity to learn from those people, I definitely knew I was going to fight for that as well," she said. "Ultimately, I think you have to believe in a project to put your best foot forward and do your best work, and that's how I felt. So I knew that should I have the opportunity to work on the movie, I was going to give it my all."

Damn, Gina.

From 'Jane the Virgin' to 'Deepwater Horizon,' Gina Rodriguez is about empathy

By Emma Krupp | REDEYE



Throwing herself into the movie meant preparing for the role on a deep, technical level. Before shooting, she was sent to dynamic positioning school in Houston, where she trained in Fleytas' duties aboard the rig. Real-life crew members who survived the disaster were available on set for day-to-day consulting. And although Rodriguez hasn't met Fleytas yet, she spoke to her over the phone and studied the tapes from her testimony in an investigation of the spill.

"Andrea Fleytas isn't a public figure," Rodriguez said. "And, you know, to play her likeness isn't as necessary as getting across the sentiment of the experience. At first I was scared, I was frightened going into it, because my desire to make her proud was so prominent in my mind. But I realized to make her proud was the sentiment of getting her strength and her bravery and her honor, not her gestures or the way she walks and talks."

Her desire to capture the undercurrent of emotion in Fleytas' experience is palpable throughout "Deepwater Horizon." There's a scene in the film when Rodriguez, as Fleytas, attempts to make a distress call after the explosion, only to be forced to back down after she's berated by one of her male superiors. It's a small moment, but one that feels decidedly representative of a woman trying to assert her authority on a ship full of men. Frankly, it's pretty infuriating to watch.

"You're like, 'Just [bleep]ing do it, [bleep] him!' Totally," she said, laughing. "And what is it that we do in those situations when we don't have the seniority? When we don't have the power, if you will? We face that a lot, and often."

Equally important as Fleytas' status as a woman is the sheer fact that she's a Latina face on the big screen—something Rodriguez would like to see much more of. On Instagram, she started a weekly post called **#MovementMondays**, where she writes up quick bios of other actors of color and promotes their work. Past subjects include Oscar Isaac, Rosario Dawson and fellow "Jane the Virgin" star Diane Guerrero, among many others.

Despite her frequent activism, Rodriguez admits that juggling her status as a role model for the Latino community can get overwhelming at times. She's Puerto Rican—her parents were born there—but that's just one of the hundreds of identities that fall under the umbrella of Latino, and it can get tricky to navigate. She's faced criticism in the past from within the community for not speaking Spanish well enough, but she insists that Latinos share a bond far more powerful than the language of their mother countries.

"Our commonality is the struggle of being brown in America," Rodriguez said. "And whatever shade of brown you are, from a light-skinned Latina to a black Latina, we all have that same struggle."

Universal among Latinos is a constant battle against stereotyping, but Rodriguez wants

Gina Rodriguez
JAY L. CLENDENIN/
LOS ANGELES TIMES FILE PHOTOS



Gina Rodriguez
in 'Deepwater Horizon'
AP



to fight the tide of those misconceptions through her work.

"I know what it is to be followed in a clothing store because they don't think I can afford anything in there. I know what it is to sit next to a supporter of discrimination and racism and a perception that is false that I'm going to hurt, steal or kill because of my skin color," she said. "I know what that feeling is, and I want to change that perception. Because at the root of all of it, I am human, and I want the same things that everybody else does: love, success, health, a good family, a career, an opportunity to do more and more and more."

One of the ways Rodriguez gets to change the public perception regarding what a typical Latino family looks like is through her show "Jane the Virgin," in which she stars as the eponymous Jane. The show, which premieres its third season Oct. 17, is never shy to discuss hot-button political topics. A particularly poignant example of this was in Season 1, when the narrator flashed an **"#ImmigrationReform"** message across the screen, urging viewers to "look it up." Rodriguez credits show creator Jennie Urman for writing in that type of smart, nonjudgmental takes on social and political issues happening as the show unfolds.

"Even when we dealt with **#Immigration Reform**, it was like, 'It's a real thing, look it up,'" she said. "And it wasn't saying anybody who's against immigration is bad, but it was saying 'Get information.'"

To that end, Rodriguez said the activism "Jane" espouses is less about specific policy issues and more about an underlying lack of empathy in modern American culture. This empathy deficit, she added, is especially pressing in light of the upcoming presidential election.

"I think that this election is vital because sadly we have a candidate who I have yet to see portray any kind of empathy toward any human being different than himself," she said. "And that's very, very scary."

Rodriguez backs up her words on empathy with actions. She famously lent her dress from the 2015 Golden Globes to a Twitter follower to wear for prom, but she also offers daily messages of encouragement to the young girls who reach out to her on the site—wishing them a happy birthday, giving bits of advice, retweeting fan art. Her outreach goes way beyond that of a typical movie star, but that doesn't perturb Rodriguez; she's used to doing things a little differently.

"My favorite idea is that you give away your blessings and you make room for more. I mean, what a beautiful concept," she said. "Because if we were all just giving away our blessings, not only would we make room for more, but we'd be blessing so many damn people! That's the kind of life I want to live."

@EMMAKRUPP1 | EKRUPP@REDEYECHICAGO.COM

Surprisingly suspenseful take on a real-life event



Emma Krupp

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More than half a decade ago, a BP-operated oil rig spilled 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico, marking the largest spill of its kind in history and an environmental disaster of epic proportions. Now, six years later, the explosion that caused the spill has

been immortalized on the big screen in director Peter Berg's film "Deepwater Horizon."

What happens?

The story centers on Mike Williams (Mark Wahlberg), a former Marine and the chief electronics technician for the rig who works for an independent contracting company. He is flown out from Louisiana alongside his manager Jimmy Harrell (Kurt Russell) and crew

member Andrea Fleytas (Gina Rodriguez) to the rig on the morning of the disaster. Tension mounts throughout the day as Harrell and Williams realize that a fresh layer of concrete sealant near the pipeline's base did not undergo a routine inspection, leaving the crew vulnerable to machine malfunction. BP officials, played superciliously by John Malkovich and Brad Leland, refuse to allocate their overspent funds toward remedying the problem.

What's good?

A heart-pounding sense of doom runs throughout the first half of the film, that sort of "when's it gonna happen" anxiety. And when it finally does happen—the explosion, that is—the action becomes downright nail-biting. You would think that knowing the plot's climax would spoil the suspense, but if anything the dramatic irony makes the action more palpable.

Berg and his cast clearly took pains to make sure the movie was shot with a great deal of



Mark Wahlberg in 'Deepwater Horizon'
DAVID LEE/SUMMIT-LIONSGATE FILMS

★★★★★
DEEPWATER HORIZON
PG-13

realism and respect—an admirable task, given the myriad ways they could have taken this real-life tragedy down a cheap, maudlin path. Wahlberg, Rodriguez and Kate Hudson (playing Williams' wife, Felicia) give particularly measured, wrenching performances.

What's bad?

For such a famous and relatively recent event, the nitty-gritty details of how and why the rig exploded are pretty damn hard to follow.

It doesn't quite escape moments of typical

action-movie chintz—the overly precocious kid and hot wife at home and the telltale shot of an American flag flapping valiantly over a burning disaster, just to name a few. That may be seen as more of an inevitability than a true flaw, though, and it never feels overly saccharine or disingenuous.

Final verdict

It's not exactly material for an enjoyable night at the movies, but "Deepwater Horizon" tells an important story with a set of talented actors.

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Kristen Wiig and Zach Galifianakis
in 'Masterminds'



★★★★ MASTERMINDS
PG-13

Smart, funny moments drowned out by laziness



Lauren Chval

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It's never easy to make a smart comedy, but it's that much harder when your subject is essentially rabid stupidity. It would be nice to say that's what director Jared Hess ("Napoleon Dynamite") set out to do with his latest comedy, "Masterminds," but the

movie is so all over the place that you have to wonder if the moments of intelligence were intentional or completely accidental.

What happens?

Simpleton David Ghattt (Zach Galifianakis) drives an armored vehicle, transporting millions of dollars for his employer, Loomis Fargo. Though he's engaged to Jandice (Kate McKinnon), he harbors a crush on his co-worker Kelly (Kristen Wiig). Her childhood friend Steve (Owen Wilson) is the half-wit criminal boss of the trailer park and convinces her to bring David in on a scheme to rob Loomis Fargo. David would do anything for Kelly, but when he escapes to Mexico following the heist, Steve and his gang pin the blame on him and begin spending the \$17 million loot.

What's good?

"Masterminds" works best when it acts as a

parody of its own story. Kelly uses her sexuality to manipulate David into committing the robbery, but her tactics aren't exactly sexy. "I've got to go wash my pantyhose with my mouth," she says breathily into the phone. Leslie Jones plays a hard-talking FBI agent on the case, and a lot of her dialogue feels mockingly stolen from a cheesy cop show. When Steve sends a "pervert-looking" hit man (Jason Sudeikis) to Mexico to take David out, the two bond over the most ridiculous reason and then frolic on the beach together. It's these moments that subvert expectations that bring the best laughs to "Masterminds."

What's bad?

For every interesting moment in the film, there are two more that are unimaginative. Watching Galifianakis trip over boxes of money while pulling off the heist or have diarrhea in a Mexican pool after drinking the water might make a 5-year-old laugh, but it just feels lazy in an adult comedy. When Kelly and Jandice get into a catfight over David, Hess does nothing to satirize that very familiar trope. McKinnon is wasted, Wilson is unconvincing as a hick and the whole film takes a very condescending view of people with low incomes.

Final verdict

Good and interesting jokes are peppered throughout, but they only serve to highlight the bar that "Masterminds" couldn't hit.



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movies

Asa Butterfield (left) and Ella Purnell in
'Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children'
JAY MAIDMENT/TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX



MISS PEREGRINE'S HOME FOR PECULIAR CHILDREN
PG-13

Perfectly whimsical, though very familiar

Lauren Chval

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A boy is removed from his depressing, ordinary life when he discovers a secluded haven for special kids with abilities. No, it's not another "Harry Potter" movie, but the latest Tim Burton film, based on the 2011 novel "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children."

What happens?

Jake (Asa Butterfield) believes he might be going crazy after he witnesses the death of his grandfather, Abe (Terence Stamp), and sees a monster in the woods. His therapist (Allison Janney) suggests that his disinterested dad take him to Wales, where Abe grew up in a children's home that served as the inspiration for Jake's childhood bedtime stories. The trip is supposed to provide closure, but instead Jake discovers that his grandfather's fantastical stories weren't made up after all. Miss Peregrine's Home is real, as are the gifted children who live there. But their refuge isn't as safe as it seems.

What's good?

Burton's brand of weird is perfectly suited to "Miss Peregrine," which gets creepier as it goes. That's bound to happen when

monsters are trying to eat children's eyes. And only Burton could make a sunken ship's skeleton-filled dining room semi romantic. Eva Green is commanding as Miss Peregrine, and the subtle, whimsical humor of Burton's direction complements screenwriter Jane Goldman's ability to tease out the mystery of the situation.

What's bad?

Nearly everything here feels familiar, from the opening moaning teenage voiceover to the "you're not ordinary" moral of the story. Elements that promise to provide more depth (like the fact that the children all seem slightly terrified of Miss Peregrine) never go anywhere special. But even if you're willing to forgive the film's tendency to retread well-known paths, "Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children" falls apart in its final act. The trouble is that the home exists in a time loop, so we eventually get into the muddy business of time travel. What the film tries to do is too complicated for 30 seconds of rushed and clunky explanation, and it doesn't seem to care that at a certain point, nothing makes sense.

Final verdict

A charming (if familiar) story that doesn't know how to wrap itself up.

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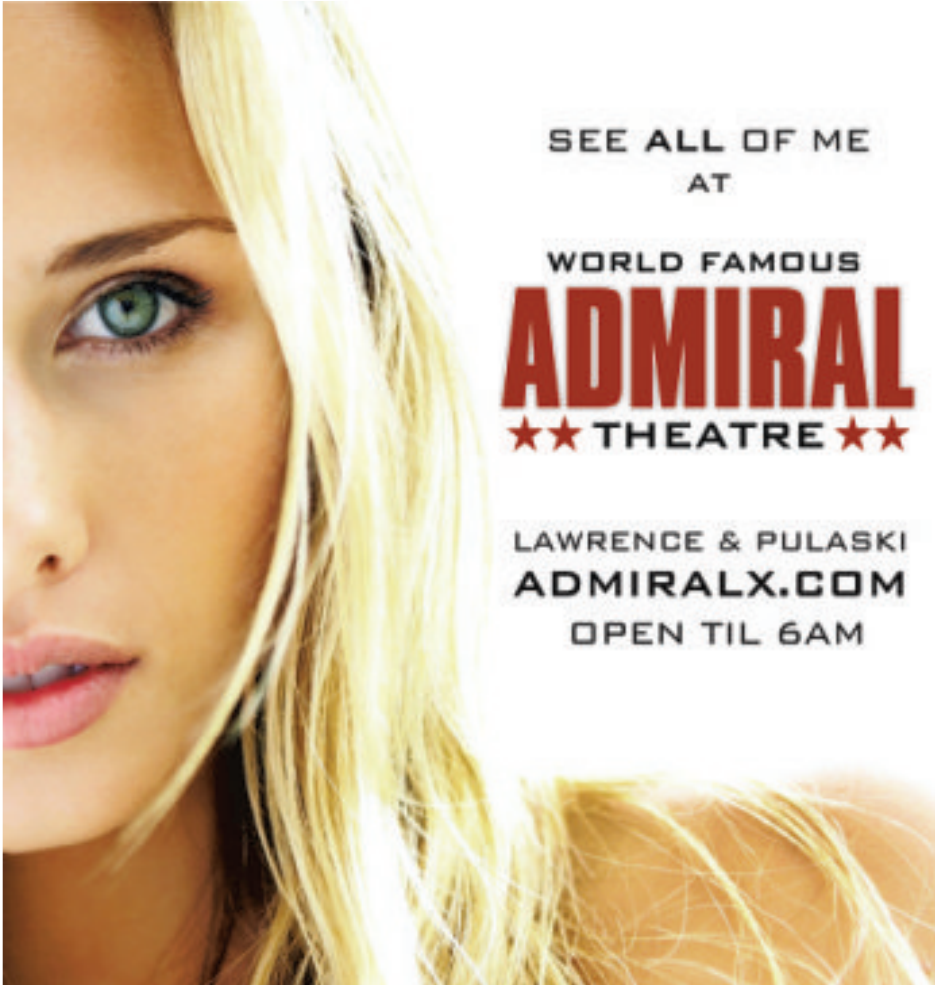
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BAR OWNERS AND ALUMNI GROUPS

Don't see your bar included here? We'll be adding to this guide throughout the season. Contact RedEye nightlife reporter Heather Schroering at hschroering@redeye.chicago.com for consideration. RedEye's college sports bar guide includes official partnerships with alumni associations in addition to bars owned by alumni and unofficial affiliations declared by bar management.

WIN *OR* LOSE, WE *STILL* BOOZE

2016 CHICAGO COLLEGE FOOTBALL BAR GUIDE

By **Samantha Nelson** | FOR REDEYE

Chicago's NFL season is off to a rocky start, but that doesn't mean you can't have plenty of football fun. Bars throughout the city are welcoming college fans from schools from Alabama to Wisconsin to root for their team of choice while enjoying food and drink deals all season long.

ALABAMA

Houndstooth Saloon in Lakeview: \$13 Bud Light pitchers, \$16 Goose Island pitchers, \$5 'Bama bombs (house whiskey, peach schnapps and Red Bull Red), \$7 22-ounce Smirnoff cocktails. The bar donates \$1 from every pitcher sold during Alabama games to the Alabama Alumni Scholarship Fund.

ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Cubby Bear in Wrigleyville: \$20-\$25 all-you-care-to-drink tall boy cans 30 minutes prior to game time and through the entire game

ARKANSAS

Joe's Bar on Weed St. in Lincoln Park: \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$6 Jack Daniel's

cocktails, \$8 build-your-own bloody mary bar, \$8.50 domestic pitchers, \$18 Coors Light/Bud Light buckets

AUBURN

Waterhouse in Lakeview: \$6 Bud Light drafts (\$1 from each is donated to The Auburn University Club), \$6 Maker's Mark cocktails and shots, \$4 Sweetwater products, \$7 Buffalo chicken rolls, \$6 corn nuggets, weekly raffles

BAYLOR

HVAC Pub in Wrigleyville: \$4 Shiner Bock, \$4 Deep Eddy vodka cocktails

BUTLER

Gaslight in Lincoln Park: \$5 Coors Light stadium cups

CINCINNATI

O'Leary's Public House in River North: \$3 Miller Lite drafts, \$10 Miller Lite pitchers

CLEMSON

Full Shilling in Wrigleyville: \$5 22-ounce domestic stadium cups, \$10 domestic pitchers, \$4 Four Loko shots, \$5 Tiger bombs (orange vodka with Red Bull)

EAST CAROLINA

A.J. Hudson's Public House in Lakeview: \$5 Carlsberg and beer of the week, \$7 nachos and wings, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots

FLORIDA

Sully's House in Old Town: \$16 buckets, \$4 stadium cups, \$5 Fireball whiskey shots, \$10 pitchers of Miller Lite, Coors Light and Bud Light

FLORIDA STATE

The Country Club in Wrigleyville: \$5 food menu, \$4 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 22-ounce Green Line stadium cups, 20 percent tab discount for FSU alumni (full-priced items only)

GEORGIA

Highline Bar & Lounge in River North: \$6 Svedka mixed drink stadium cups, \$4 Bud/Bud Light cans, \$5 Miller/Coors stadium cups, \$8 boneless wings, \$10 mini-burgers, \$6 craft/import stadium cups

ILLINOIS

HVAC Pub in Wrigleyville: \$4 Shiner Bock, \$4 Deep Eddy vodka cocktails

Joe's Bar on Weed St. in Lincoln Park:

\$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$6 Jack Daniel's cocktails, \$8 build-your-own bloody mary bar, \$8.50 domestic pitchers, \$18 Coors Light/Bud Light buckets

Schoolyard Tavern & Grill in Lakeview:

\$5 Coors Light and Miller Lite stadium cups, \$20 fishbowls, \$10 mini-burgers (five burgers plus a side), \$5 Oskee Wow-Wow bombs (0 bomb with a splash of orange juice)

WhirlyBall in Bucktown:

\$5 20-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$4 Budweiser and Bud Light, \$7 Not Your Father's Vanilla Cream ale,

\$5 Founder's All Day IPA drafts, 20-cent smoked chicken wings, \$1 sliders and tacos

ILLINOIS STATE

Flagship in Lakeview: \$5 Fireball whiskey shots, \$5 mimosas, \$5 6-ounce bloody marys, \$15 Miller/Coors buckets, \$5 22-ounce Miller/Coors stadium cups

INDIANA

Joe's Bar on Weed St. in Lincoln Park: \$18 Coors Light/Bud Light buckets, \$8.50 domestic pitchers, \$8 build-your-own bloody mary bar, \$6 Jack Daniel's cocktails, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots

Kirkwood Bar & Grill in Lakeview: \$10 grilled bone-in wings, \$5 Husker bombs (Bacardi Razz, cranberry juice and Red Bull), \$5 Miller/Coors stadium cups, \$7 glasses of Elks Creek (vodka, gin, Sprite, soda water, lime and orange juice), \$25 Big Red (vodka, Minute Maid fruit punch and soda water) or Elks Creek fishbowls

IOWA

Clover Sports & Leisure in West Town:

\$5 22-ounce domestic stadium cups, \$4 Four Loko shots, \$5 Hawkeye bombs (citrus vodka with Red Bull)

Cortland's Garage in Bucktown: \$15 Coors Light and Miller Lite buckets, \$5 mimosas and build-your-own bloody marys, \$3 Fireball whiskey and El Jimador tequila shots

Crossroads Public House in Lincoln Park: \$7 32-ounce Bud Light loyalty mugs (keep the mug), \$12 PBR buckets, \$18 Coors Light buckets, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$4 mimosas, \$6 bloody marys, \$25 100-ounce Bud Light supertubes

Four Shadows in Lincoln Park: \$5 22-ounce domestic stadium cups, \$10 domestic pitchers, \$4 Four Loko shots, \$5 Hawkeye bombs (citrus vodka with Red Bull)

Highline Bar & Lounge in River North: \$6 Svedka mixed drink stadium cups, \$4 Bud and Bud Light cans, \$5 Miller/Coors stadium cups, \$8 boneless wings, \$10 mini-burgers, \$6 craft/import stadium cups

Ironside Bar and Galley in River North: \$4 12-ounce Busch Light cans, \$5 16-ounce Miller High Life drafts, \$5 Cold Spell whiskey shots, \$5 Fireball whiskey shots, \$6 Dr. McGillicuddy's blackberry and peach whiskey bombs, \$6 grilled cheese, \$7 gyros, \$9 turkey legs

John Barleycorn Wrigleyville: \$30 package includes six cocktails and a buffet

Kick in North Center: \$11 pork tenderloin sandwich, \$9 Cajun garlic mac 'n' cheese, \$8 beer brats, \$11 wings, \$20 Goose Island buckets, \$25 mimosa buckets (a bottle of sparkling wine and two types of juice), \$10 Baderbrau, Avery White, Ale Syndicate, Ciderboys and Bell's Brewery seasonal stadium mugs with \$5 refills

Merkle's Bar & Grill in Wrigleyville: \$2 tacos, \$3 domestic cans, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$5 bombs, \$15 mimosa package (half hour before kickoff to end of fourth quarter)



Wings at Tavern on Little Fort

Redmond's in Wrigleyville: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$2 Busch Light and Natural Light cans, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$5 Jameson shots

Tavern on Little Fort in North Center: \$8 Miller Lite pitchers, \$5 Miller Lite stadium cups, \$5 Jack Daniel's and Coke, \$5 vodka lemonade, \$5 Hawkeye bombs (citrus vodka with tropical Red Bull)

Theory in River North: \$6 Miller Lite, Coors Light and Blue Moon stadium cups

KANSAS

Kincade's Bar & Grill in Lincoln Park

Lotties Pub in Bucktown: \$4 22-ounce Miller/Coors cups, \$6 Miller/Coors schooners, \$8 Boulevard schooners, \$8 pizzas

KENTUCKY

The Pony in Lakeview: \$4 John Wall shots (cherry vodka and blue raspberry drink mix), \$5 Miller/Coors souvenir cups, \$5 Wildcat Pony punch (vodka and blue raspberry drink mix), \$5 Old Forester

LOUISVILLE

Finley Dunne's Tavern in Roscoe Village: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 UV bombs, \$3 whiskey shots

MARYLAND

Dark Horse Tap & Grille in Wrigleyville: \$4 Maryland-style Old Bay fries, \$5 Terp bombs (whiskey, peach schnapps, cranberry juice and Red Bull), \$4 22-ounce

Bud Light stadium cups, \$6 22-ounce Smirnoff vodka stadium cups

MIAMI

Flagship in Lakeview: \$5 Fireball whiskey shots, \$5 mimosas, \$5 6-ounce bloody marys, \$15 Miller/Coors buckets, \$5 22-ounce Miller/Coors stadium cups

MICHIGAN

Celtic Crown in North Center: \$4 22-ounce domestic stadium cups, \$9 domestic pitchers, \$4 Four Loko shots, \$5 HarBomb (citrus vodka with Red Bull)

Diag Bar & Grill in Lakeview: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$5 Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 HarBombs (Smirnoff Ruby Red Grapefruit bomb), \$5 Go Blue bombs (Smirnoff Blueberry bomb)

Duffy's Tavern & Grill in Lincoln Park: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$7 22-ounce Bell's Brewery stadium cups, \$7 22-ounce Founders Brewing Co. stadium cups, \$8 22-ounce vodka Red Bull stadium cups

Matilda in Lakeview: \$4 craft beer drafts

Moe's Cantina in Wrigleyville: \$30 package includes six cocktails and a buffet

Rockit Bar & Grill in River North: \$8 Absolut stadium cups, \$25 beer buckets, \$6 Jameson, \$6 breakfast shots, \$6 mimosas, \$8 bloody marys

Rockit Burger Bar in Wrigleyville: \$5 Bud Light, Goose Island Green Line and

Founders All Day IPA stadium cups

WestEnd in the West Loop: \$6 Miller Lite, Coors Light and Bell's stadium cups, \$25 Michigan beer buckets, \$6 nachos, \$8 goblets of sangria, \$5 HarBombs (Deep Eddy grapefruit vodka, Red Bull and blue Powerade)

MICHIGAN STATE

Corcoran's in Lincoln Park: \$18 Coors Light buckets, \$4 Miller Lite pints, \$2 brisket or cheeseburger sliders, \$7 wings platter, \$6 bloody marys, mimosas and bombs

Higgins Tavern in Lakeview: \$11 Coors Light or Miller Lite pitchers

Hopsmith Tavern in the Gold Coast: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$6 Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 Sparty bombs (Smirnoff Orange, Blue Curacao, Tropical Red Bull)

Mahoney's Pub & Grille in West Town: \$4.75 22-ounce Coors Light stadium cups, \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups

Old Crow Smokehouse in River North: \$18 Bud and Bud Light buckets, \$4 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, half-price small plates

Sedgwick's Bar & Grill in Lincoln Park: \$5 22-ounce Miller High Life stadium cups, \$5 Powers Irish whiskey shots, \$16 domestic buckets

The Anthem in Wicker Park: \$4 22-ounce Coors Light stadium cups, \$4 shots of Buffalo Trace bourbon

The Stretch in Wrigleyville: \$30 brunch package includes mimosas, 22-ounce stadium cups, eggs, sausage and breakfast potatoes from 11 a.m.-2 p.m.

Wild Goose in North Center: \$6 wings or nachos, \$5 cans and bottles of Michigan beers, \$13 Labatt Brewing Co. pitchers

MISSISSIPPI

Finley Dunne's Tavern in Roscoe Village: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 UV bombs, \$3 whiskey shots

MISSOURI

Derby in Lincoln Park: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$6 Bud Light stadium cups, \$7 Boulevard Brewing Co. stadium cups, \$5 Odom bombs (orange vodka with Red Bull)

Sedgwick's Bar & Grill in Lincoln Park: \$5 22-ounce Miller High Life stadium cups, \$5 Powers Irish whiskey shots, \$16 domestic buckets

NEBRASKA

Kirkwood Bar & Grill in Lakeview: \$10 wings

Rockwood Place in Wrigleyville: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 Husker bombs (cherry vodka, Red Bull and cranberry juice), \$25 Bud Light supertube tabletop beer dispensers, \$6 Elk Creek glasses (vodka, gin, citrus soda and orange juice), \$15 Elk Creek pitchers



REDEYE FILE

NORTHWESTERN
Kincade's Bar & Grill in Lincoln Park

Timothy O'Toole's in Gold Coast: \$17.50 Miller/Coors buckets, \$5 22-ounce Miller Lite, Bud Light and Coors Light stadium cups

NOTRE DAME
Commonwealth Tavern in Roscoe Village: \$4 Miller Lite stadium cups, \$5 Guinness, \$10 Irish nachos, \$5 Jameson shots

Crossing in Lincoln Park: \$8 nachos, \$5 mini-cheeseburgers, \$5 Irish car bombs, \$5 22-ounce Boulevard Brewing Co. Wheat, Miller Lite and Coors Light stadium cups

D4 Irish Pub & Cafe in Streeterville: \$7 small plates (Buffalo wings, pulled pork quesadillas, Parmesan truffle fries, onion rings and reuben flatbread)

Emerald Loop in the Loop: \$18 Coors Light buckets, \$4 Miller Lite pints, \$5 beer of the month, \$2 brisket or cheeseburger sliders, \$7 wing platter

High Noon Saloon in Wicker Park: \$4 Modelo Especial drafts, \$3 Fireball whiskey shots, \$3 Tequila Exotico shots

Lion Head Pub in Lincoln Park: \$3 20-ounce Miller Lite and Coors Light drafts, \$5 Absolut bloody marys

Racine Plumbing Bar & Grill in Lincoln Park: \$5 Guinness drafts, \$5 Jameson shots, \$15 Miller Lite pitchers

The Irish Oak in Wrigleyville: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$6 22-ounce Bud/Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 mimosa bombs

The Kerryman in River North: \$3 Miller Lite bottles, \$5 bloody marys, \$5 mimosas, \$10 All American burgers (two patties, American cheese, bacon, egg, garlic aioli and fries)

Vaughan's Pub Northwest in Jefferson Park: \$13 domestic buckets, \$5 bloody marys and mimosas, \$4 beer of the month, \$4 Paddy and Powers Irish whiskey shots, \$6 jumbo wings, \$2 smoked brisket or cheeseburger sliders

OHIO STATE
Gaslight in Lincoln Park: \$5 Coors Light stadium cups

O'Donovan's in North Center: \$17 Coors buckets, \$6 Tito's vodka drinks

Old Crow Smokehouse in Lakeview: \$18 domestic buckets

She-nannigans in the Gold Coast: \$6 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups

The Butcher's Tap in Lakeview: \$5 22-ounce domestic stadium cups, \$4 Four Loko shots, \$5 Buckeye bombs (cherry vodka with Red Bull)



Fat pour Tap Works
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE FILE

Vaughan's Pub in Lakeview: \$15 Coors Light buckets, \$3.50 Miller Lite drafts, \$4.50 Great Lakes Dortmunder Gold, \$5 bloody marys and mimosas, \$5 bombs, \$6 for a pound of wings, \$2 tacos

Woodie's Flat in Old Town: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$6 Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 Brutus bombs (Smirnoff Cherry with Red Bull)

OKLAHOMA
Barn & Company in Lincoln Park: \$4 22-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$4 vodka lemonade

PENN STATE
A.J. Hudson's Public House in Lakeview: \$5 Carlsberg and beer of the week, \$7 nachos and wings, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots

Durkin's Tavern in Lakeview: \$5 22-ounce Bud Light and Rolling Rock drafts, \$8 any other 22-ounce draft, \$4 Mind Erasers, Crown Apple shots and Fireball whiskey shots, \$8 Bongwater Monkey Boys (similar to a Long Island iced tea), \$3 bloody marys and mimosas for morning and afternoon games

PURDUE
Waterhouse in Lakeview: \$6 Bud Light stadium cups (\$1 from each goes to the Purdue Alumni Club), \$5 bombs, 20 percent discount for all Purdue Alumni Club cardholders, \$15 60-ounce Green Dragons and Baltimore Zoos

STANFORD
The Anthem in Wicker Park: \$4 22-ounce Coors Light stadium cups, \$4 shots of Buffalo Trace bourbon

SYRACUSE
Crossroads Public House in Lincoln Park: \$7 32-ounce Bud Light loyalty mugs (keep the mug), \$12 PBR buckets, \$18 Coors Light buckets, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$4 mimosas, \$6 bloody marys, \$25 100-ounce Bud Light supertubes

TEXAS
Stanley's Kitchen & Tap in Lincoln Park: \$4 Shiner Bock and Shiner Ruby Redbird cans, \$6 Tito's vodka cocktails, \$4 Lone Star, \$4 Coors Light, \$4 Shiner Strawberry Blonde drafts, \$7 Casamigos shots, \$10 Shiner drafts with a shot of Casamigos, \$6 Texas Tea (Tito's vodka, Sailor Jerry rum, Smirnoff peach, simple syrup, lemonade, iced tea, mint, orange and lemon juices), \$9 Texas mules (Tito's vodka and ginger beer), \$15 brunch buffet and \$10 bloody marys and mimosas for early games

TEXAS A&M
The Pony in Lakeview: \$5 Tito's vodka cocktails, \$5 Fireball whiskey shots, \$6 Shiner cups, \$15 Lone Star buckets, \$10 Aggie pizza (meatball, red onion and barbecue drizzle), \$25 Pony gift cards raffled off every game day

TEXAS CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
Joe's Bar in Old Town: \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$6 Jack Daniel's cocktails, \$8 build-your-own bloody mary bar, \$8.50 domestic pitchers, \$18 Coors Light/Bud Light buckets

UCLA
Glascott's Saloon in Lincoln Park: \$15 domestic buckets, \$12 Miller Lite pitchers

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
Highline Bar & Lounge in River North: \$6 Svedka cocktail stadium cups, \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$8 fish or steak tacos, \$10 mini-burgers with a side, \$6 hummus and guacamole, \$5 Miller/Coors stadium cups

WISCONSIN
Deuce's & the Diamond Club in Lakeview: \$15 Miller Lite buckets, \$5 Jameson and Jack Daniel's Tennessee Honey bombs, \$25 meal package includes Miller Lite and

Corona Light drafts and your choice of wings or nachos

Fatpour Tap Works in Wicker Park: \$7 bloody marys, \$20 champagne bottles, \$6 Bud/Bud Light stadium cups, \$5 mimosa bombs, \$5 Wisco bombs (Cherry Smirnoff with Red Bull)

Kroll's South Loop: \$15 35-ounce glasses of Leinenkugel's Oktoberfest, \$9 bloody marys

Lotties Pub in Bucktown: \$4 22-ounce Miller/Coors cups, \$6 Wisconsin beer cups, \$8 cheese curd pizza, \$5 Bucky bombs (red cherry vodka and Monster energy drink)

Moe's Cantina River North: half-price small plates, \$18 domestic buckets

Monty Gaels in North Center: \$14 domestic buckets, \$3.50 Coors Light pints, \$3 PBR tallboy cans, \$5 Fireball and Jameson whiskey shots, \$6 Wisconsin cheese curds, \$7 wing platters

Ranalli's in Lincoln Park: \$4 Fireball whiskey shots, \$9 12-inch two-topping pizzas, \$8 Death's Door bloody marys, \$40 mega Moscow mules, \$6 Miller, Coors and Leinenkugel's stadium cups

Stout Barrel House & Galley in River North: \$5 brats, \$5 cheese curd baskets, \$5 SoCo lime shots, \$5 Jameson whiskey shots, \$6 22-ounce Miller Lite drafts, \$8 22-ounce bloody marys

WhirlyBall in Bucktown: \$5 20-ounce Bud Light stadium cups, \$4 Budweiser and Bud Light, \$7 Not Your Father's Vanilla Cream ale, \$5 Founder's All Day IPA drafts, 20-cent smoked chicken wings, \$1 sliders and tacos

Will's Northwoods Inn in Lakeview: \$3 burgers, brats and hot dogs, \$7.95 cheese curds, \$8 32-ounce Miller Lite, Coors Light or Leinenkugel's original in a souvenir cup with \$6 refills

BIG TEN
Mac's Wood Grilled in Wicker Park: \$9 PBR pitchers, \$14 IPA pitchers

The Tankard in Wicker Park: \$15 domestic buckets, \$20 Carlsberg buckets, \$5 tater tot nachos

Tuman's Tap & Grill in Ukrainian Village: \$14 Founders All Day IPA pitchers and \$9 PBR pitchers every Saturday from 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

UNAFFILIATED BARS
Benchmark in Old Town: \$25 domestic aluminum buckets, \$10 mini-burgers (five burgers plus a side)

Pitchfork in Albany Park: \$15 bottomless mimosas, \$15 Tecate buckets, \$29.99 Mega BBQ platter

The Fifty/50 in Ukrainian Village: \$16 domestic buckets, \$20 select craft beer buckets, \$12 mimosa buckets





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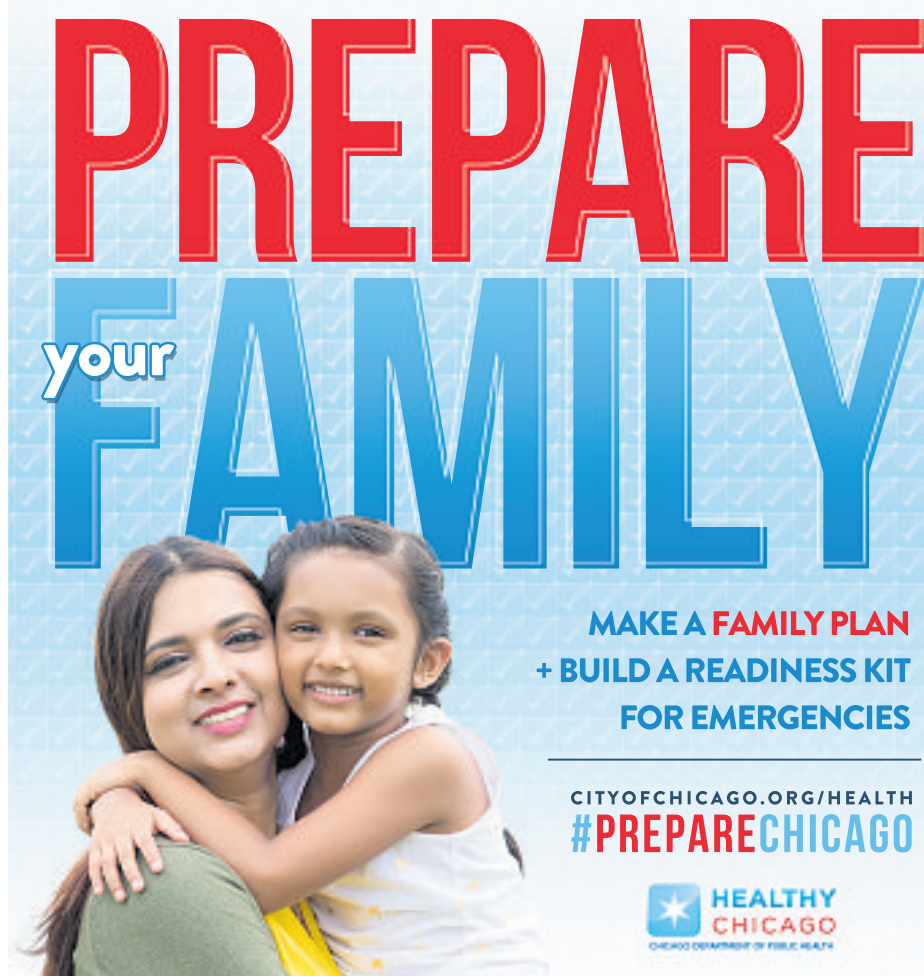
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LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

REVIEW
GT Prime
 707 N. Wells St.
 312-600-6305
 ★★★★★
Heating up

Don't call it a steakhouse

GT PRIME STUNS IN RIVER NORTH

By Michael Nagrant | FOR REDEYE

There's a semi-famous painting called "The Treachery of Images" by Belgian surrealist René Magritte. It's not as well-known as the artist's painting of a man in a bowler hat with an apple in front of his face, but you've probably seen it. It's a painting of a pipe with the caption "Ceci n'est pas une pipe," or in English, "This is not a pipe."

I imagine when Magritte's buddies first saw this sly piece of work, they felt like I do when my friends proclaim Dunkin' Donuts coffee the best. Which is to say I'd like to punch them and then buy them a year's supply of

Dark Matter or Sparrow. But my friends have a point; Dunkin' Donuts coffee isn't nearly as bad as you'd imagine it to be, and as Magritte is pointing out, the painting is not a pipe. You can't stuff it with tobacco and smoke it. It's just an image.

The idea occurs to me as I think about GT Prime, the latest installment from chef Giuseppe Tentori (GT Fish and Oyster, Boka, Charlie Trotter's) and the Boka Restaurant Group. Many folks have dubbed it a "reinvention of the steakhouse." Yes, there's a \$3,000-plus bottle of red wine on the reserve menu ("I hope someday someone will order it," Tentori said) and ruddy cuts of wagyu galore. But trust me, GT Prime is not a steakhouse.

Swifter than Swift & Sons

Sister restaurant Swift & Sons, on the other hand, is a steakhouse, with its forest of wood paneling, tableside carved beef Wellington, heart-stopping creamed spinach and tufted leather sofas that probably smell like George Clooney. While Swift & Sons' cavernous interior feels like a hulking cruise ship, GT Prime is more like one of those sleek vintage wood boats, the kind James Bond is usually toting around Venice.

GT Prime's towering exterior door looks big enough to accommodate the "Harry Potter" half-giant Hagrid. Upon entering, you'll find yourself in a two-story lobby anchored by a magnificent staircase with ruby-colored steps. There are a couple of mounted heads

above the host stand that look like mythological beasts but are actually very real oryx and sable antelope, which Tentori affectionately calls Chuck and Tenderloin. There's certainly enough grandeur here to fool you into thinking you're in a steakhouse. The theme continues as you're whisked into the main dining room, where a UFO-sized crystal chandelier hangs over golden club chairs and merlot-colored velvet bench seats. The whole thing starts to feel more like a king's secret hunting lodge than a steakhouse.

In service, but not servile

Steakhouse service is often like dealing with a bad real estate agent: obese and slavish. ("Yes, ma'am, the cocktail made with Malort

and unicorn pee is also my favorite. What an excellent choice you've made.") Such behavior is generally followed by gross upsell. ("Chef recommends the corn, which features individual kernels hand-removed by 40-year-old virgins and goes for just \$100.")

At GT Prime, my server was fearless and smart. He knew what to recommend and why to recommend it and somehow figured out what everyone at the table was craving. He came off like a wise-counseling best friend of many years.

Danielle Lewis, queen of cocktails

One of my dining companions that night doesn't eat chicken, pork (bacon excluded, of course), roast beef or vegetables of any kind. He was on the fence about a cocktail called the Golden Ticket (\$13) made with mezcal, chartreuse, yellow pepper, lemon and saffron, but our server nudged him to order it. I'm so glad he did. The cocktail tasted like a Oaxacan sunset (if a Oaxacan sunset was drinkable): smoky with a bell pepper nose and sealed with an acidic citrus kiss.

Just before dessert, the server raved about the X-Ray Yankee Zulu cocktail (\$13) with bone marrow-infused bourbon, charcoal-infused Cappelletti and Punt e Mes vermouth. It was cooling with a touch of mouth-coating sweet maple flavor and bitter chocolate notes. It's coffee and cigarettes and doughnuts in a sip. Lead bartender Danielle Lewis' cocktails are some of the most exciting I've had in a long time.

Tiny meat, big flavor

Though being branded with the steakhouse label doesn't seem so bad, Tentori explained that there's a slippery slope that comes with it. "It's tough reinventing the steakhouse because people expect giant \$100 potatoes stuffed with truffles and caviar," he said. "But at the end of the day, it's still a potato."

This isn't to say that you'll find cheap, scant cuts of meat here. There was an expensive wagyu New York strip on offer the night I visited, but it was served as part of the Carnivore platter (\$110), which housed four 4-ounce cuts of meat including bison, prime beef tenderloin and rib-eye. Though it's expensive, the sticker shock is eased by the fact that the 16-ounce plate feeds four to six people. And unlike at most steakhouses, the sensibly sized portions are sliced into perfect bite-size hunks, so the only work you have to do is pop those beauties into your mouth.

The comparison offered by the platter is enlightening. It's like a wine flight in meat form. I often get into arguments with friends about whether or not a rib-eye is better than a filet or if wagyu is really worth the price. This platter settles all arguments. Side by side, the melting wagyu makes the tenderloin feel as soft as an old tennis ball. The rib-eye



X-Ray Yankee Zulu
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

bursts with more minerality and pepperiness than the wagyu. The attention to detail on each piece of protein is staggering. Because the bison is lean and would be destroyed by the quick, searing heat of a broiler, it's wood-grilled. The wagyu and rib-eye both have a healthy bit of marbling, which allows for a crispy caramelized crust under the broiler.

The Italian (black) stallion rides again

But this is where the steakhouse ends. Befitting a native-born Italian, Tentori's pasta is rocking. Toothsome tangles of bigoli (\$16) drip with bolognese sauce loaded with super-savory beef, pork and veal and a whisper of sweet, tangy tomato. Also in the Italian vein, there are arancini puffs (\$12) stuffed with gooey parmesan risotto and mortadella swimming in a swirl of balsamic vinegar and mozzarella cheese sauce spiked with crunchy pistachio.

The menu forays into other countries as well. There's a French-style Lyonnaise (\$15)

RATINGS KEY

- ***** DEAD UPON ARRIVAL
- ***** PROCEED WITH CAUTION
- ***** GIVE IT SOME TIME
- ***** TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT
- ***** OFF TO A GOOD START
- ***** HEATING UP
- ***** ALREADY HOT



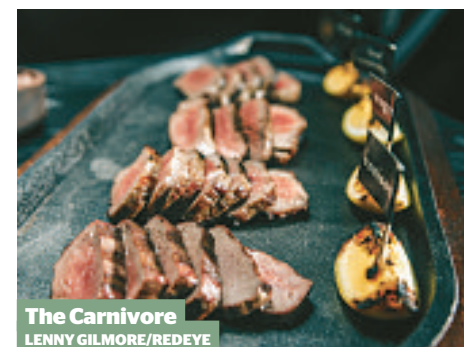
Mortadella arancini
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

salad featuring a forest of frisee gilded with runny duck egg yolk and slivers of salty duck prosciutto standing in for traditional pork lardons. I loved the flavors, but Lyonnaise salad is so classic that I craved and expected a crouton. There's also a crab salad dome enrobed in avocado (\$20) and garnished with red pepper sauce spikes that look like

Guy Fieri's frosted tips. The flavors were classic, but only half the avocado was salted. The unsalted parts were flat and fatiguing to chomp through.

Complexity served two sweet ways

Dessert is a bit steakhouse-like in that there's a Meyer lemon creme brulee on offer. Enticed by peach cake and a chocolate marquise (all desserts \$10), I didn't try it. The peach cake was moist, but I found the mix of peach, strawberry and floral green tea flavors a bit confusing. The chocolate marquise was gooey and decadent, a premium fudgy fantasy. Sporting banana tahini,



The Carnivore
LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE

apricot sorbet and a sesame tuile, this dessert was also complex. But smart contrasting elements—bitter sesame and sweet banana, cooling apricot and warm chocolate—were delightfully executed.

Bottom line

I have the pleasure of sometimes inviting people with me to review restaurants. Afterwards, I usually get a thank you, maybe an enthusiastic head nod or, in some cases, a decided meh on the experience. After dining at GT Prime, my friends hugged me. While rare, I think those hugs speak to the fact that this is the kind of place that makes you feel alive, like you're inside the beating heart of Chicago. Ultimately, the greatest trick Boka Group ever pulled was convincing the city that GT Prime was a reinvented steakhouse. Calling it a steakhouse lowers expectations. There's no need for that. This is a success by any standard.

MICHAEL NAGRANT IS A REDEYE CONTRIBUTOR. REPORTERS VISIT RESTAURANTS UNANNOUNCED, AND MEALS ARE PAID FOR BY REDEYE.

puzzles

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DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★★★

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THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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ACROSS

- 1 one's voice; speak more softly
6 Flock cries
10 Greek letters
14 State one's views
15 Arm bone
16 out; let to tenants
17 Hits hard
18 Rogers & Clark
19 6...12 is 2
20 Tempting
22 Head...; boss
24 Massages
25 Well-bred; refined
26 India's dollars
29 Take a sample of
30 "Cat... Hot Tin Roof"
31 Jeans fabric
33 Keyboard instrument
37 Skimpy skirt
39 Accepted standards
41 Cooking herb
42 Big...; happy occasion
44 Long... CA
46 "Miserables"
47 Dragged along behind
49 Least common
51 Football pass
54 Nude
55 Venerated
56 "...O'er the... we watched..."
60 Source of woe
61 Dull-colored
63 Nampa's state
64 Breakfast order
65 Frilly trimming
66 Early bedtime
67 In case
68 Watches
69 Palms & pines

DOWN

- 1 Part of the ear
2 Frank; candid
3 Basketball's Chamberlain
4 Whole
5 Saved from danger
6 Scorch
7 As easy as falling off
8 In... event; nevertheless
9 Obis & others
10 Machines near computers
11 Therefore
12 Pie... sky; pipe dream
13 Bar seat
21 Playwright Henrik _
23 Hold...; keep
25 Fraternity letter
26 Italy's capital
27 UTEP or BYU
28 Window glass
29 Exhausted
32 Peace Prize
34 Powerful wind
35 Eras
36 Robin's home
38 Investor's earnings
40 "Get lost!"
43 Shredded
45 Player of a heavenly instrument
48 Walk like a duck
50 First-grade textbook
51 Can wrapper
52 Old saying
53 BBQ utensil
54 "... in Toyland"
56 Marathon
57 Talk wildly
58 You, biblically
59 Male children
62 Actor Romano

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TODAY IN THE YEAR ...

- 1791: Mozart's opera "The Magic Flute" premiered in Vienna, Austria.
1955: Actor James Dean, 24, was killed in a two-car collision near Cholame, Calif.
1966: The Republic of Botswana became independent from Britain.
1972: Roberto Clemente hit a double against Jon Matlack of the New York Mets during Pittsburgh's 5-0 victory at Three Rivers Stadium; the hit was the 3,000th and last for the Pirates star.

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red hot



THE NIGHTMAN COMETH AGAIN?

After being renewed by FXX for two more seasons, the powers that be behind "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia" are upping the ante. Charlie Day, who plays none other than Charlie on the show, told Red Carpet Roxy (who is apparently a thing despite the awful name) that the upcoming Season 12 will feature a full musical episode—and an appearance by Scott Bakula. Bakula will reportedly guest-star in the musical episode, which may or may not be a follow-up to Season 4's "The Nightman Cometh." We didn't ask for this, but god-damn, we'll watch it anyway.

The cast of 'It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia'

Solo direction

Niall Horan—the baby-faced cherub-esque singular blonde member of the now defunct One Direction—has released a solo song and inked a record deal all on his own, according to [vulture.com](#). Harry Styles, who? After Zayn Malik left the band last year and Styles announced his own solo aspirations in an interview with *Another Man* magazine earlier this week, Horan decided to drop this acoustic bomb felt the world over. If you see a teenage girl sobbing uncontrollably, now you know why.



Prep the powder

Terence Winter, the man behind "Boardwalk Empire," is now set to tackle the script for a retelling of the "Scarface" story, according to [variety.com](#). The film will be directed by Antoine Fuqua and will feature a Mexican immigrant in Los Angeles, as opposed to the 1932 and 1983 versions taking place in Chicago and Miami. Winter is also known for his adaptation of "The Wolf of Wall Street," so maybe some quaaludes will be involved this time around.

Christmas is coming early

Leslie Odom Jr., "Hamilton's" former Aaron Burr, sir, is releasing a Christmas album on Nov. 11, according to [vulture.com](#). The album will be aptly called "Simply Christmas," and it's set to feature classics such as "I'll Be Home for Christmas," "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "The First Noel." Sure, Halloween hasn't even happened yet, but, um, can anyone get us this for a gift, please?

Well, this sounds ... fine

In case you've thought to yourself recently, "I wonder what Mel Gibson is up to," we've got you covered. Gibson is in talks to play an "old-guy spy" in director Benjamin Rocher's upcoming "Every Other Weekend," according to [thr.com](#). The film will center around a father who has convinced his son that he's a CIA spy, when he's actually just an IT guy for the agency. However, Grandpa (aka Gibson) really is a spy. Multigenerational "Die Hard" with Mel thrown in? Don't mind if we don't.



Cat to play a cat on Broadway

Grumpy Cat is headed to Broadway. The musical "Cats" announced Thursday that the grumpy feline will make her debut Friday, according to [ew.com](#). Grumpy Cat "said," "Being selected as the first real cat to perform in Cats on Broadway is an honor. I hate it. If I'm really being honest, I'd prefer to play the Phantom in The Phantom of the Opera." Oh man, can "Cats" come to Chicago?

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